**­­Nonfiction Writing Practice – Cubing Strategy**

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| Describe:  Our constitution is a document. It’s old. It contains information about our rights and freedoms as citizens. | Analyze:  The constitution contains articles and amendments. They contain words and sentences, obviously! There is information in it about who is in Congress and how they get elected and meet. Some of the language is hard to understand. It has the signatures of the people who agreed to it. |
| Compare:  The constitution is like an owner’s manual for citizens. It lays out what is done by the government and what the individual is supposed to do and what rights the individual has, like the right to free speech. | Apply:  This historical document applies to my life in many ways. I enjoy free speech that people in many countries do not, like Iran and Iraq. I’m female, so if it weren’t for the 19th amendment, I would not be able to vote when I’m 18. My parents have to pay taxes, and one day I will too, and the information about paying taxes is in the constitution. |
| Associate:  When I think of the constitution I think about all of the people who are “covered” by it and how tricky it must have been to make one document that applied to everyone. I guess that’s why there are so many amendments – it’s hard to get anything perfect the first time. Are amendments like revisions? | Argue for/against:  I think all countries should have a constitution. I’m in clubs here at school that have bylaws and it’s kinda the same thing. Any organization needs rules that they go by. So a constitution is like that. |